

# THE COMMUNICATOR

INSIDE:

■ **Holiday Movie Wrap**  
A look into the theatrical releases that hit the holidays

■ **Keeping the Faith**  
Men's basketball keeping heads up after several tough losses

■ **In All Directions Returns**  
West Coast Ponies? Are the Colts Hollywood bound?

Volume 34, Issue 15

www.ipfwcommunicator.org

Wednesday, January 14, 2004

## IPFW mourns loss of two during holiday break

### Volleyball assistant killed in fall while with team during Puerto Rico exhibition

By Scott M. Lawson and Dan Vance  
The Communicator

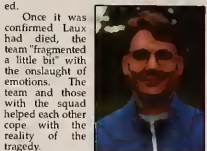
Tony Laux would be surprised by his outpouring of emotions triggered by his death, his mother believes.

"I don't think Tony realized what an impact he had on everybody's life," Judy K. Coyle said.

Laux, 32, was killed Tuesday, Jan. 6, while with the IPFW volleyball team in Puerto Rico. The team was spending a day at a beach in Vega Alta, Puerto Rico. Laux, who was a volunteer equipment assistant, died when he fell from an approximately 25-foot cliff near the beach. According to reports, he apparently landed in the swift currents of the Atlantic Ocean.

Men's volleyball coach Arnie Ball said Laux had gone to see another view of the ocean with a friend. His friend had turned back around to return to the group. Laux was no longer visible when she turned back around. Nobody witnessed Laux fall into the ocean, Ball said. How that happened would be speculation, he noted.

Members of the squad pulled him from the water and 911 was called immediately. Team trainer Scott Knerr attempted to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Puerto Rico officials have told the family a cause of death will be made official next week when that portion of the investigation is concluded.



Laux

Once it was confirmed Laux had died, the team "fragmented a little bit" with the onslaught of emotions. The team and those with the squad helped each other cope with the reality of the tragedy.

His school spirit and his concern for others will be missed, Ball said. "Tony is what IPFW is missing. In the 22 years I've been here, nobody loved IPFW more than Tony. Unfortunately, we don't have enough people who feel that way. He was very positive, very caring," he said.

The 1998 IPFW graduate was buried Tuesday wearing a university sweatshirt in his hometown of Columbia City, about 20 miles west of Fort Wayne.

While going to undergraduate school, Laux was active in a variety of school activities. He was a member of the cross country team, a senator for IPCS-A, a columnist and sports editor for The Communicator and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Continued on Page 2

### Longtime professor, IPFW's earliest anthropologist dies after short illness

By Scott M. Lawson and Dan Vance  
The Communicator

The death of Paul J. Provost is a tragedy for the school, but the way he lived his life can be an example to us all, a longtime colleague explained.

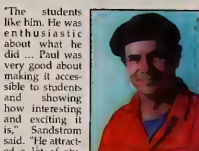
"He had a lot of adventures in his life. It was a full life. He didn't miss anything," Anthropology Department Director Alan Sandstrom said.

Provost, 58, passed away in Fort Wayne Dec. 24 due to complications from pneumonia. A funeral service was conducted in Ipswich, Massachusetts last week.

Provost was the first full time anthropologist to work at IPFW. His tenure at the school began in 1972 and he began the anthropology program here.

Sandstrom, who had known Provost since undergraduate school 36 years ago, noted his many accomplishments. Provost was one of the first Fulbright award winners at the university and helped anthropology grow from a class taken out of curiosity to a department awarding over 100 major or minor degrees.

While his ability to work through administrative bureaucracy assisted in growing the Anthropology program into its own department, he was also credited with being a rare type of educator inside the classroom.



Provost

"The students like him. He was enthusiastic about what he did ... Paul was very good about making it accessible to students and showing how interesting and exciting it is," Sandstrom said. "He attracted a lot of students into the discipline," he added.

It will be hard for many people associated with IPFW, past and present, to say goodbye.

"He (Provost) was definitely one of those professors that most people never get to have over the course of a college career," Kat Kuhne said. Kuhne is a senior studying Anthropology. "He revealed in forcing people to think about things that they never would have otherwise," she said.

Vickie Bridgeman, who attended IPFW in the early 1980s, and then returned to finish up her anthropology degree in 2000, noted Provost taught more than facts and figures.

Continued on Page 2

## Tipping off an opportunity



As freshman Beau Bauer looks on, IPFW junior center David Simon faces Purdue's Ivan Kartelo in the opening tip as the two teams face in the Purdue Invitational on Dec. 20. For more on the men's basketball team, see page 10.

## Go to class, learn something.

By Dan Vance  
The Communicator

He was an unlikely pop culture icon for much of the 1990's. He was the quirky, yet antagonized leader of a band of misfits whom many IPFW students grew up with. And now, Mr. Belding is coming to Fort Wayne.

Dennis Haskins, who portrayed Principal Richard Belding from 1987 to 2000 on the various incarnations of the teenage hit "Saved by the Bell" was tapped by the Student Activities Board to speak on campus on January 28.



A more recent photo of Haskins at the 2003 premiere of his movie "Tangy Guacamole."

Haskins, who will appear through the Joey Edmonds Agency, was spotted by members of SAB during the National Association of Campus Activities regional convention in Peoria, Illinois. After seeing Haskins perform, SAB advisor Audrey Moore immediately began speaking with the agency on booking Haskins.

"We are excited to have him, everyone knows who Mr. Belding is," said Moore. "It's a great way to kick off our spring semester."

Haskins, who will be in the theatrical releases "Wild Michigan" and "Reverie" this summer has been busy in the entertainment industry since "Saved by the Bell" (the "New Class" version) was cancelled in 2000.

However, it seems that being the loveable leader of Bayside High is the one role that will stick with Haskins for the long haul.

Born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Haskins worked as a music manager, agent and concert promoter before finding his break in the acting industry with guest roles on "The Dukes of Hazard" and "Magnum P.I."

In 1987, the big break came for Haskins, who landed the role of Belding on the new show "Good Morning Miss Bliss," starring Haley Mills.

The success that "Good Morning Miss Bliss" (which was later known as "Saved by the Bell: The Junior High Years") took Haskins to was something that Haskins, as a somewhat new actor, was never prepared for.

Soon after "Good Morning Miss Bliss" was moved to NBC, the show was renamed "Saved by the Bell" and took three of the main student characters and

Continued on Page 2

## Playing the numbers game for the Fall of 2003

By K.E. Casey  
The Communicator

The Student Institutional Research Summary published by the Office of Institutional Research, tabulated enrollment statistics for the fall semester 2003. The results of the study, published online at <http://www.ipfw.edu/vcaa/Instres/1nstrs.html>, track the changes in student demographic enrollment per semester.

For the fall semester of 2003, IPFW received 5,322 applications; IPFW admitted 4,919 of these applicants, and

3,405 of those admitted matriculated to IPFW.

Freshman enrollment is down 6.4 percent from the year 2002, totaling 5,019 students. Conversely, junior enrollment jumped 11.1 percent and senior enrollment saw a 13 percent increase to 1,642.

Overall, enrollment at IPFW increased 0.4 percent to 11,806 students for the fall semester 2003. To contrast, IPFW saw peaks in student enrollment in the 1992-1993, with 12,050 students enrolled in the fall semester.

Of those enrolled, 7,920 students were FTE (full time equivalent),

increasing the number of full time students by 1.3 percent.

Per university affiliation, the total Indiana program saw a negative 0.8 percent change, dropping to 6,414 students; total Purdue enrollments increased 1.9 percent to total 5,392 students.

By gender, 4,926 students enrolled in the fall semester were male; total female enrollment numbered 6,880.

By age group, the greatest number of enrolled students were between the ages of 21 and 25, comprising 32.9 per-

Continued on Page 8



Despite more student athletes graduating in recent years, the total grad rate is 21 percent.



The undefinable, and true essence of Toast and Jam coffeehouse

reviewing toast and jam page 5



Exclusive local coverage of the Original Toughman Contest in Fort Wayne

regional toughman contest page 10



## NEWS BRIEFS

### R.A.D. classes return to campus

Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) class for females is returning to IPFW again for the Spring Semester. The classes will be held from 6-9 p.m. The first class will be on Jan. 26 and then will continue on Jan. 28, Feb. 2 and 4. The class is free for faculty, staff, students, alumni and spouses and dependent children of faculty and staff. For all others, the class carries a \$25 fee. To register, call 481-6619.

### IPFW chemistry student named ACS Scholar

Derek Garcia, an IPFW chemistry major has been recognized as one of only four students in Indiana and 142 nationwide as an American Chemical Society (ACS) scholar for the 2003-2004 academic year. The Scholar's program, which has been active since 1995 encourages minority students to pursue undergraduate degrees in the chemical sciences or chemical technology.

### Symposium for engineering a 'success'

IPFW, in a joint venture with Local Defense Contractors held a Systems Engineering Symposium on Dec. 9 in the IPFW Science Building. The educational seminar was held to allow students and faculty to interact with the people who work in systems engineering and get some practical input. The symposium was considered a success for all involved.

"Systems engineering is the foundation for applying technology and knowledge for the betterment of society," said Mike Downs of Northrop Grumman (one of the local defense contractors involved). "It's a privilege to assist IPFW in creating this capability for Fort Wayne and Indiana."

For information regarding the topics of the symposium, contact Carl Drummond, IPFW Vice Chancellor of Research and External Support at 481-5730.

### IU Credit Union opens new ATM on campus

A new ATM machine has been added on campus with Wells Student Union. The IU Credit Union main office is located on the first floor of Wells by room 125. For more information on IU Credit Union, call 481-6263.

### Fort Wayne Freedom returns for 2nd season

Following a successful expansion season in the spring of 2003, the upstart National Indoor Football League (NIFL) team the Fort Wayne Freedom has released their full schedule for their 2004 campaign. The team, who has resigned numerous players and held open tryouts to fill any voids will start their new season at home on March 14 against the Show Me Believers. Season tickets are already on sale and start at just \$50 and are available at [www.fwf.com](http://www.fwf.com) or the Memorial Coliseum box office.

### Campus closed for holiday observance

The Office of University Relations and Communications would like students to take note the campus will be closed on Monday, Jan. 19 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. No classes or non-athletic IPFW events will occur on this day.

### SAB brings in the "Big Red Couch" to start off spring semester

Thursday, Jan. 15, the Student Activities Board is presenting the "Big Red Couch" Photos. The event will take place in Ketcher Hall on the ground floor from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for all students. For more information on the "Big Red Couch" event or future SAB events including Dennis Haskins and Step Afrika!, call 481-6590.

## EDITORIAL BOARD

- Scott M. Lawson, Editor
- Scott A. Wahlberg, Managing Editor
- Dan Vance, News Editor
- Kurtis Meyers, Arts & Entertainment Editor
- Nick West, Sports Editor
- Katie Pruitt, Copy Editor
- Alicia Layton, On Campus Editor
- K.E. Casey, Chief Reporter
- Amanda Pierce, Advertising Manager
- Josh Vargas, Advertising Designer
- Dorie Reynolds, Publisher

# NEWS

## IPFW offers chance to study abroad in Istanbul

By K.E. Casey  
The Communicator

The classroom for PHIL493 won't be on the IPFW campus - it won't even be in America. A trip to Istanbul, presented by the department of Philosophy and Religious Studies program, is planned for May 14 through 23.

However, the tour, led by Professor Michael S. Spath, can also be taken without the class.

"It's my favorite city in the world," commented Professor Spath, a Ph.D. in Islamic Studies.

Istanbul, located in Turkey, is the "crossroads between East and West" and possesses a "rich political and cultural and history," according to Prof. Spath. Also, "all three of the great Western religions are present there today," he further elaborated.

"It's a good introduction to the world of the middle east. These people are at home both in Europe and the Middle East," Prof. Spath said.

The structure of the visit will include both guided and self-led tours. After the first two days of touring, the visitors have

the option to choose from several other optional tours.

For those who enroll in the class, examples of on-site class work include touring, reading and keeping a photo journal. The photo journal, according to Prof. Spath, "is one of the more exciting and fun aspects of the assignments," he said.

One of the featured events of the trip is an evening with the Whirling Dervishes, a Sufi Muslim order known for their spinning dances. The visitors will be able to view the members of the order at prayer and observe the dances, called Sema, which last 20 minutes at a time. "During my number of trips to Istanbul, I've developed a friendship with the Whirling Dervishes," commented Prof. Spath. The Whirling Dervishes have been a point of study for Prof. Spath.

"People want some structure, and they want to feel comfortable in their surroundings. On the other hand, they don't want to have tours 24/7," commented Prof. Spath. "People like to go at their own speed, and enjoy some leisure time," he further elaborated.

The future of the city wherein the trav-

elers will stay is, "where tourists dwell," according to Spath. "There is enough of the old feel, that's rather pristine, but touristy enough that there are regular police and tourist police," he said.

The question of security, a concern for all world travelers today, "is an issue," according to Susan Byers, director of Off Campus Credit and Distance Learning at IPFW. "All these faculty members who are leading these trips feel completely safe," she further commented. "They keep track of where people are and nobody is going to be disappearing," she said.

While on the trip, "We check in with each other on a fairly regular basis," said Prof. Spath.

The cost of the trip varies depending on the number of persons involved and may range from \$1893 to \$2093.

"I think that foreign travel is a positive experience for any university student. ... No matter what your major," commented Prof. Spath, "more and more we are citizens of the world."

For information call Jennifer Caseldine-Bracht in the IPFW Philosophy Department at 481-6366.

## Longtime professor

from Page One

"He taught more than anthropology ... he taught more real gems on living life to its fullest as well," Bridgman said.

One of the program's former students, Doug Kline, will be teaching Provost's spring semester class.

Kline is an IPFW graduate who went on to receive his Ph.D. at Edinburgh University in Scotland. It is because of the work of Provost and the Anthropology Department that Sandstrom believes IPFW is becoming known for its undergraduate program.

"We've had two master's degrees at Cambridge (University), University of Chicago. All the best universities in the world," Sandstrom said.

Provost and Sandstrom became interested in anthropology while in undergraduate school together. He described it as "extreme journalism" - going out to report on cultures - not just for a few weeks, but months or years on end. When he wasn't teaching, he was learning. Officials with the Anthropology Department pride themselves as working educators - taking time to conduct field work when not teaching courses, Sandstrom said.

Provost had spent time conducting fieldwork all over the world, including the Peruvian Amazon in South America, Tibet in exile in Asia and with the Australian Aborigines.

With Sandstrom and Sandstrom's wife, Provost met the Dalai Lama while in India during the early 1980s.

Provost had battled Parkinson's Disease. Bridgman said she saw the difference the ailment had through the two decades she knew him.

"One of the more poignant moments I had with Paul in the Fall of 2000 was when he said to me that although I was having to start back to school with a cast on my leg, at least I knew my injuries would heal and get better. He then lowered his eyes and said 'As for me, I will never get any better.' I knew he was referring to his Parkinson's," Bridgman said.

But Parkinson's had nothing to do with his death, Sandstrom noted. The condition that killed him could happen to anyone, his friend said.

Provost thought he was battling the flu during finals week. On Tuesday, he experienced a pain in his lower chest and went to the hospital. He was admitted to

the hospital Tuesday night. About 24 hours later, he lost the ability to breathe and consciousness. He remained on support systems until Christmas Eve.

"It always encourages people to Tuesday morning in the hospital to Wednesday night in a coma and he never came out of it," Sandstrom said. "It's kind of frightening."

While Provost will be missed, the program he began will continue to grow, Sandstrom said. And his legacy will be how he taught, along with how he lived - by always encouraging people to reconsider their thoughts.

"He definitely had a different way of looking at the world than most people, but whether you agreed with him or not, you couldn't help but be fascinated by what he had to say. I don't think I sat through a single class or had a single conversation with him where I didn't have to stop and rethink what I thought I knew and understood," Kuhne said.

Sandstrom agreed.

"He made the university real for students. He was very talented, a really good person to have on your side and full of energy - even at the end."

## Volleyball assistant

from Page One

"If he completed something, he'd be finding something else to do," his mother said.

IPFW athletic director Mark Pope knew Laux through his work for the department and said Laux's attitude about life is one more people should try to embody.

"Tony didn't talk much about himself ... Tony was always directed on what was happening around (at IPFW). He never focused on himself. He was always thinking of others first," Pope said.

IPFW has started The Tony Laux Memorial Scholarship Fund, Pope said.

According to the announcement, Tony Laux recognized the importance of higher education, earning his Bachelor's Degree from IPFW in 1998, and working toward a Master's Degree. He also had a passion for the athletic endeavors of the Student-Athletes that represent IPFW.

His skills and understanding of the commitment to Tony's devotion to academics and athletics, we are proud to establish a memorial scholarship fund in his memory. Scholarship recipients will know that the benefits they receive are a result of the most important values that Tony held.

During the Friday, Jan. 16 volleyball game, there will be a remembrance for Laux, Pope said.

Those interested in contributing to the fund can do so by contacting the IPFW Athletic Department at Gates Sports Center.

He had been working full time at Group Insurance Services in Fort Wayne, and working for the men's volleyball team part time. After finishing up his degree in criminal justice in 1998, Laux had been working on his master's degree in education and took a few classes each semester, Coyle said.

While going to school for himself, he was always eager to help others, she said.

"He would do anything for anyone," Coyle said.

"At a time of tragedy, people often try to come to some understanding on the situation. For Ball, it is still too early to understand what his loss will teach the community. "There's always a lesson to be learned. Sometimes you're not sure what the lesson is, but certainly, there is a legacy. You never know why someone's life is taken. Only the Big Guy upstairs knows why," Ball said.

For the past three seasons, Laux had been doing laundry and maintaining equipment for the men's volleyball team. He never complained about it, his mother said. He enjoyed being involved.

"He loved working at the gym, and working with the athletes," she said.

Laux was the first manager for the IPFW volleyball team in its 22-year history. His family received words of condolences from all parts of the

campus.

"When you have someone that leaves an institution, that leaves a void, it's not just people - and your family extends out lots and lots of places," Ball said.

The tragedy showed his mother's love, but until a few days ago, I didn't realize how big his family was," she said.

## Mr. Belding at IPFW

from Page One

the character of Mr. Belding to high school.

And from there, the dynasty was born and Haskins' place in the industry was secured.

"It's a great thing to bring to campus because a lot of us grew up with him on our tv's, so he is like larger than life in some respects," said junior Mark Bell.

Since "Saved by the Bell: The New Class" wrapped, Haskins has been busy, filming seven movies, guest starring on numerous television shows and attempting to maintain a semi-regular tour speaking to the youth of America.

Included in his presentation of "Mr. Belding on Campus," is a motivational talk, saved by the Bell trivia and a question and answer period. Haskins' show has been considered more of a relaxed atmosphere where he takes time for one on one interaction.

Haskins' show will be in Web Ballroom from noon to 1 p.m. on January 28 and will be free to all students and staff.

## CONTACT US

The Communicator  
Walb Union; Suite 215  
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Editor: (260) 481-6584  
Publisher: (260) 481-6585  
Advertising: (260) 481-6583  
Fax: (260) 481-6045

[www.ipfwcommunicator.org](http://www.ipfwcommunicator.org)

## EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials are the opinions of The Communicator. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of IPFW, its employees or its student body. A column is solely the opinion of its author.

The Communicator welcomes responses from readers. Letters to the Editor and guest columns will be signed, dated and accompanied by a current, valid address, telephone number and class standing/major or title. Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication.

All submissions made via e-mail will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, double-spaced and no more than 700 words.

The editorial board of The Communicator reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style and clarity.

Letters deemed libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.





**DON'T  
MISS OUT!**

**SPACE IS STILL AVAILABLE BUT GOING FAST!**



the *new* standard in student living

**HOUSING FOR IPFW STUDENTS**

**amenities**

- Individual Housing Agreements
- Community Center
- Basketball Sport Court
- Furnished Bedroom
- Social Lounge with Big Screen Television
- On-site Community Assistant Staff
- Furnished Living Room
- 24-Hour Laundry Facilities
- On-site Management and Maintenance
- Fully Equipped Kitchen
- Computer Learning Center/Cyber Lounge
- Housing for IPFW Students including Allen County Residents
- Dining Area with Chairs
- Fitness Center

**IPFW Student Housing**

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE**

**260-481-4180**

Kettler Hall G98F • 2101 E. Coliseum Blvd. • Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805  
www.IPFWstudenthousing.com • email: info@IPFWstudenthousing.com

PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY AMERICAN CAMPUS COMMUNITIES

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

## EDITORIALS

### Lessons in life and in death

Neither man sought spotlight, but in their deaths, we reflect on the impacts they had on our community.

Anthropology professor Dr. Paul Provost, 58, died Dec. 24 in Fort Wayne due to complications from pneumonia. Volleyball equipment assistant Tony Laux, 32, died in Puerto Rico after an accident at a beach there.

Provost was known for his sly wit and descriptive stories. His ability to intoxicate students with knowledge not only brought more people into his discipline, but gave those who only took his class for course credit an understanding why anthropology is not only interesting, but necessary.

Laux was known for his busy lifestyle and positive outlook. To paraphrase his mother, when he was done with one project, he was beginning another. He loved being involved with IPFW – most recently as an equipment manager – but his activities while in school were numerous.

Provost was described by a friend as living life to its fullest. Laux was doing the same thing as he continued taking classes after graduating from IPFW in 1998. Both enjoyed a variety of experiences, from travels around the world to running for a university cross country team.

They never sought the spotlight. They wanted to help others by teaching or assisting. They worked to better those around them. As a sports editor for The Communicator, Laux passed on his knowledge to others. As a faculty advisor to the Anthropology Student Association, Provost assisted in teaching those interested in his field.

Both were far too young to die. That is a reminder to all of us that a momentary slip or quick illness can end our last day without a chance for us to say goodbye to loved ones.

We learn from their deaths that life can tragically be ended too soon. We learn from their lives that life can be celebrated through attention to one another.

### Mark Souder's 'Great Adventure'

U.S. Rep. Mark Souder patted reserve soldiers on their heads last week as they gear up for duty in Iraq by welcoming them to a "great adventure."

According to press reports, the congressman spoke to over 200 members of the 221 Ordnance Ammunition Group about their deployment, scheduled to begin in February, and used the phrase "great adventure" in describing the current war in Iraq and the other war on terrorism.

It's a good bet no soldier has ever returned from a war thinking it was a "great adventure." Wars can be necessary evils or the end of necktie diplomacy, but for those dealing with bullets and blood, war is not a "great adventure."

Of course, Souder wouldn't know this himself. He missed his opportunity for a "great adventure" during Vietnam by avoiding service and attending IPFW. He has been described by some as a "chickenhawk" – one of numerous conservatives who pride themselves on supporting any military deployment that lasts six months or a year, but never served a day of boot camp.

Souder's greatest contribution during the Vietnam era was (and this is verbatim from his congressional website: "Had he not been elected to Congress, perhaps his most significant achievement would have been his involvement in naming the IPFW 'Mastadors' while he was student body president."

And it's a good bet he wasn't worried about bullets flying or blood spilling when he exercised his braincells to come up with such a "significant achievement."

Souder makes it a routine to embarrass himself with odd statements and pointless legislation. But he also prides himself with his support for the troops – wrapping himself in a flag for votes. He has visited the world because of the war on terrorism. But his has been necktie travel with congressional security.

Maybe that's what he thinks their "great adventure" is when troops go to war.

### Word of the week: Antilocution

By S.G. Wahlberg  
The Communicator

For the past few years, I have noticed a trend in slang among my peers that I find disturbing. Despite our years of exposure to a world that strives to be politically correct, this particular and offensive saying persists. It is common among children, young adults, and some of the older generation. Most often it is used to describe something one finds negative or unpleasant: the phrase is, "That is so gay."

When I hear this, I instantly think, "Really? Tell me, which part of that is outstandingly homosexual?" I've heard this phrase applied to just about everything, from an unusually mean supervisor at work to high gas prices. It simply does not make sense, except when looked at from the view that in using 'gay' to describe a negative object or situation is an attempt, whether purposeful or not, to further encourage homophobia and homosexual stereotypes. After all, if the phrase were, "That is so black," when referring to a negative event, it would be abundantly clear that the speaker was biased against African Americans. Essentially, the use of this phrase is really saying 'gay=bad'.

To make this perfectly clear: not everyone who uses "gay" as a negative adjective is automatically homophobic. There are probably homosexual people who unthinkingly use the phrase as well. The majority of the people who currently use such slang are probably doing so because it has become popular among the younger generations, and do not think as to what its usage implies. However, for those of us who have taken Social Psychology, this 'trend' is instantly recognizable as antilocution, the generalization of terms or jokes through a population that single out a certain group and, while seemingly harmless or amusing, are actually quite detrimental.

Then there are those who most certainly know what they are saying and choose to say it because of their beliefs about the morality or nature of homosexuality. In this case, the intent to defame is both purposeful and malicious. You do not need to take a class to recognize that as outright homophobia. It is ultimately these people who reinforce the use of 'gay' as a negative adjective and the idea that homosexuality is inherently bad.

Of course, there is no clause in the Constitution that can force anyone to agree or disagree with homosexuality. In fact, it is your right to think and say whatever you please. It does little good to appeal to your sense of the law: rather, it is most effective to appeal to your sense of equality. You may disagree with someone's religion, political affiliation, or sexual preferences, but if those differences are not harming anyone, you must respect them as a person – which includes refraining from using slang that encourages negative stereotypes.

### THE COMMUNICATOR Editorial Policy

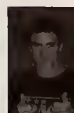
Editorials are the opinions of The Communicator. The opinions expressed in editorials or opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of IPFW, its employees or its student body. A column is solely the opinion of the author.

The Communicator welcomes responses from readers. All letters to the Editor and guest columns must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current, valid address, telephone number, and class standing/major or title. Telephone numbers and addresses will not be printed. All submissions made via e-mail will be verified by telephone or in person.

The editorial board reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style and clarity.

# VOICES IN CAMPUS

## "How soon do you think U.S. forces should be pulled from Iraq?"



Jordan Justice, Sophomore:

"U.N. should have taken control of it by now. I

mean, it's not just a one country thing. It should be all of us trying to fix it."



Shawna Smith, Sophomore:

"Our agenda is done. We got them, so let them set

up their own government."



Adam Diehl, Sophomore:

"I trust our leaders to make those decisions. I'll trust our

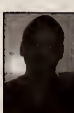
President and what he's doing. I'll pray for them to make good decisions."



Carol Hahn, Music Department:

"As soon as they get the police officers trained over

there, we should get out of there. We should have never gone in in the first place."



Henock Belayneh, Sophomore:

"Right now they should pull them out. They said

their objective was to find weapons and they didn't find any."



## Don't forget your Toast and Jam

By K.E. Casey  
The Communicator

It is a mark of distinction that a business named after a sandwich could turn out to be the best coffee shop in Fort Wayne.

The house that houses Toast and Jam is as oddly painted as its name—a mix of pink and teal hues adorn the intricate Victorian architecture. The three-story house, with towering spires and a wrap around porch, seems out of place against the plain gray buildings that comprise the modern skyline of Fort Wayne. The unusual outer colors of the house belie the elegant interior, a mix of classical deep browns and reds; the intricate dark woodwork and marble fireplace are of an original owner who spared no expense.

Dimly lit and with an distinctive blend of coffee and cigarette smoke in the air, live music was always the main event in the evenings, and this captivating element seemed to make the normally noxious smells of smoke and coffee something familiar. The small, warm space sometimes made seating a problem on crowded nights; on other occasions, it was if you had a personal concert, listening to the musician in front of an empty room.

I sat in Toast and Jam on more than one occasion, amazed, as a dwindling crowd did nothing to discourage the featured musician. The music continued far past any economic benefit, fame or otherwise. The tip jar, filled with mostly one-dollar bills, seemed woefully small in comparison to the quality of the music. There was no way the small amount of change would ever cover a regular gig.

The musicians were there to play, and so Toast and Jam stood in the same spirit, never making a sizeable profit in its existence. It's hard to understand why a business would stay open despite a lack of economic benefit. In a fiscal sense, the proprietor was going about the business of coffee all wrong; the warm, smoky atmosphere of Toast and Jam is miles away from the artificially clean, bright fluorescent of places such as Starbucks and the ilk—the Wal-Mart clones of the coffee industry.

With plenty of room for all, these cookie-cutter coffee companies provide a few books, a box of checkers and a monogrammed T-shirt and they serve their brand name confections with as little human interaction as possible. After all, there are more customers to serve behind you. The consumers who attend these coffee shops almost seem cookie cutter as well, though the pattern varies from place to place; the pedestrian shoppers at Jefferson Pointe, the well-dressed denizens of Ground Level and the high-school Goths trying to prove their independence at Firefly are just a few of the coffee house dress codes in Fort Wayne. Despite the bohemian intentions of these establishments, the pack rule still

seems to apply in regard to personal appearance and sometimes, even attitude.

This formula also found itself reversed in the old Victorian home; hippies who never gave up the dream were right at home with the neo-conservatives who took time to indulge in their radical past by visiting the coffee house. Young and old, middle class or well to do, chose any pair of clichéd opposites you like, it really didn't matter. What brought everyone out to the house on Wayne Street was the music, and this common interest superceded the petty differences of modern man, if only for an hour or two.

On crowded nights, I saw the sharing of table space on many occasions. Once again, in contrast to your local conglomerate coffee shop, this might be dangerous. But even in downtown of Fort Wayne, it didn't seem to be a problem inside the walls of Toast and Jam.

Outside, the world remained as it always did. The spell was broken the moment one walked down the porch steps. But the dark night in which you left Toast and Jam seemed often seemed a bit brighter for your time.

And like all impossible occurrences, so Toast and Jam fell into inevitability, leaving with 2003 after years of no profit. Even the most high-minded of ideals eventually succumb to reality, and all that remains of the musical venue is a future of house concerts. What once was, will not be again.

Perhaps the question is not how to write about the closing of a coffee shop, but why. 2003 promises to be a year of fragmentation, politicians pulling the people of America into their respective camps, calling for a unity under the direction of just one man and his political party. Terrorism, the bright new endemic to our society, promises in color-coded signals to haunt us once again. We will be scared and provoked, questioned and disseminated in this political year.

Thus, the fight between the old and the new is renewed



The Toast and Jam coffeehouse on Wayne Street between Lafayette and Berry. They intend to be open on special occasions in the coming months. Photo by Scott M. Lawrence

once more. As this year begins, we witness as yet another anachronism passes from our midst in the form of a beatnik coffee shop. In the end, it is not the coffee shop that is worth remembering, but the people, and the music. We now have one less refuge from the reality of existence, one less chance for fellowship.

I do not possess a great enough command of the language to truly define the essence of Toast and Jam, and in all honesty, there is a distinct possibility that there isn't a greater lesson that can be learned from the whole experience. But I can't help but think that maybe, as we move on into the new year, the people of Toast and Jam, customer and performer alike, remind us that we can find something different from the petty commercialism and pack rule of our daily lives. And if we remember why the music hits us in the first place, the trials of life seem lighter, once we leave the spell of the music and step back into the fray.

## To watch or not to watch, the channels are the question

By Mandie Pierce  
The Communicator

Whenever there are extended periods of time away from a jam-packed semester, I, like many of my fellow classmates, am often forced to find other ways to fill my life.

Some of us choose to work, taking on monstrous extra hours just to help pay our wallets and our bank accounts for the meager scholarships we can pull off during the semester.

Some of us, whose wallets are already padded enough, take the time to travel. Spending winter vacation in warmer climates or summer vacation in the "world's" coolest spots rounds out the time between semesters.

There are those of us who have families, and with the younger children being out of school as well, time off from school means time off for the baby-sitter.

Then there are those of us that manage to fill our lives with a variety of time-fillers. Sleeping in, shopping, working, napping, studying for the upcoming semester, partying, sleeping, hanging out with friends, and catching up on some much needed stutery rounds out the lives of a majority of IPFW's student population.

No matter which of these profiles you fit into, there is a common thread woven amongst each. Without classes and serious studying, there will exist time for an old friend. Television fills the extra time in between shifts, shopping, sun-

bathing, sightseeing and sleeping. My break was no different.

Although I managed to avoid the bitter weather here in the fort, being in sunny Georgia didn't keep me from being sucked into the boob tube, much like many others. I've seen a lot of my old favorites, resurrected on TV Land and late night reruns. If it weren't for these familiar faces, I'd have been confused. The TV of my youth is no more. This new television is nothing more than channel after channel after channel of specialized programming. There's even a channel to tell you all about the other channels. Amazingly enough, I'd be willing to bet that that was the channel I flipped to the most.

There used to be one channel for each general segment of the population. ESPN, Nickelodeon, ABC, NBC, MTV, CBS, PBS, VH1, Fox and Disney were some of the major players from my youth. Suddenly, there's practically a channel for every five people. I've come to the conclusion there are executives that have nothing better to do with their time but walk up and down the streets, interview 10 people for their top five interests and then create a station with the winners. HGTV, ESPN Classics, Food TV, Travel Channel, Fashion Network, Golf Channel, Discovery Kids, Cartoon Network and the Hunting Network are just some of the presents delivered to me by my kind cable company.

After polling the general public, if there is a channel somewhat like it already in existence, there's not a problem. There's

going to be a different angle to see it from, so there needs to be another channel. There are many stations that can be used to illustrate the wonder of the subdividing networks, but one good example comes to mind. As a child, I was glued to Nickelodeon. Great live action shows like "Salute Your Shorts" and "Hey Dude," game shows like "Double Dare" and "Wild and Crazy Kids" have given way to a network of cartoon programs. In the time before it turns into Nick at Nite there are only two live action shows on the network. The only thing keeping them from continuing the cartoons to the Nick at Nite time slot is the fact that Nick at Nite shows programs from back when cartoons weren't their thing. I feel the need to interject one quick observation.

Why are we forced to watch hours upon hours of "Full House" in syndicated reruns when great series such as "Salute Your Shorts," "Hey Dude," "You Can't Do That on Television" and "Welcome Freshmen" are seemingly lost forever in the vast television abyss. Where are the public opinion polls now? I think we've all had our fill of Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen (even when they played one person), but we are left craving more of Bobby Budnick, Mr. Ernest, and the ever popular super sloppy double dare.

These are not the only things the TV has taught me in my time off from school, but this is all I can handle thinking about right now. The rest is too upsetting to handle today.

# THE COMMUNICATOR

we put out on wednesday's.

CURRENTLY HIRING  
WRITERS AND  
PHOTOGRAPHERS, NO  
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE  
NEEDED.

STOP BY WALB 215 FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



# THE COMMUNICATOR

Advertise with us.  
BUY 1/8 PAGE OR LARGER  
FOR 3 CONSECUTIVE  
WEEKS GET 4TH & 5TH  
WEEK 35% OFF

Contact Mandie Pierce  
at 481-6583 or  
at stupaper@ipfw.edu

# Holiday movie wrap-up: 'Rings' remains on top

By Kurtis Meyers  
The Communicator

The holiday season is over, and all the over-hyped, over-budgeted, big name movies have been released. So after the dust has settled, which films have made it through the new year unscathed?

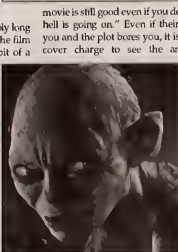
To no surprise, Frodo and Co. lead the pack. "Return of the King," the third and final installment of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, opened on Dec. 17, and has remained at the top of the box office for three straight weeks. Its five-day opening of \$125 million easily surpassed the openings of the two previous films, "Fellowship of the Ring" and "The Two Towers."

Besides the fact that it is unbelievably long (3 1/2 hrs) and has about five endings, the film is excellent. To describe the plot is a bit of a task, considering that only the truest of fans could identify each of the characters. Personally, I've read the first book and seen each of the three films once, and here is what I can gather: A hobbit named Frodo and his fellow big-footed friends go on a mad trip to destroy an all-powerful ring by throwing it into a big mountain full of molten lava. To help them along the way is a guy whose name used to be Strider but is now called Aragorn, an elf, a dwarf, and a white wizard. An evil wizard who is also white attempts to get the ring and rule the world by creating an army of extremely ugly bad guys, some of whom bear a striking resemblance to Skoth from "The Goonies," which he expels into Middle-Earth to destroy the heroes. That is the extent of my knowledge.

The beautiful thing about "Rings" is that an understanding of the plot is not necessary to enjoy the film. To quote Conan O'Brien, "the



The enemy advances in a battle on Pelennor Fields  
Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema



Gollum eying his "precious"  
Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema

Frodo that the remarkable ability of special effects can be appreciated. Unless we will be day able to take part in the action on screen, it is hard to imagine better graphics.

"Return of the King" wasn't the only film to get attention over the break. "Something's Gotta Give," starring Diane Keaton and Jack Nicholson, has been nicknamed "Granny Hall" for Keaton's similarity between her character and the one she played in Woody Allen's classic "Annie Hall." The moniker is right on. Keaton is wonderful and will probably get a Golden Globe proving so. The most amusing part of the film, however, is the fact that Jack's role is a complete parody of his real life dating habits. A 63-year-old man dates skinny, attractive 20-year-olds, young enough to be his daughter, for a week or two until moving on to the next one. If only

Jack would go for a woman his age like his character in the movie does instead of messing around with the frighteningly skinny Lara Flynn Boyle.

"Elf," starring Will Ferrel and directed by Jon Favreau, was easily the favorite of the Christmas spirit movies. Ferrel ditches his slow, dim-witted persona in "Old School" for a slow, dim-witted, but extremely cheery one in "Elf." The outcome is predictable and the acting is hokey, but isn't that the case with all Christmas movies?

"Bad Santa," starring the real-life bad ass Billy Bob Thornton, destroys the Christmas movie mold and makes a movie that lands at the top of Santa's naughty list.

In the film, he and a midget dress as Santa and end up at a department store blind during the holidays. Kudos to Thorson for bringing an R rating to a holiday film and actually pulling it off.



King Aragorn (Viggo Mortensen) in "Return of the King"  
Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema

"Cold Mountain," starring Nicole Kidman and Jude Law, is one of those films that gets Oscar buzz before it hits the theaters.

While the performances are noteworthy, the film itself does not reach its full potential, considering the two romantic leads are apart for most of the movie. However, it is worth seeing if only for the small role of guitar slinging Georgia, played by Jack White, who is the lead singer and guitarist of the band The White Stripes.

"Peter Pan," starring a relatively unknown cast, opened poorly Christmas Day, partially due to the fact that it fought for family audiences with Steve Martin's vehicle, "Cheaper by the Dozen." Perhaps the real problem is that

"Peter Pan" was already done perfectly by "Hook" with Robin Williams. And who is this Jason Isaacs guy who thinks he can top Dustin Hoffman's Captain Hook?

## A hail the king

By Kurtis Meyers  
The Communicator

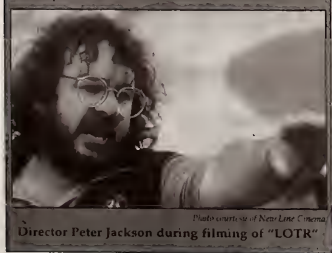
The real triumph of "Rings" is not the film itself, but the director. Five years ago, New Line Cinema took the biggest gamble in cinematic history and gave \$300 million (which eventually grew to \$400 million) to a relatively unknown director named Peter Jackson and let him shoot three movies simultaneously. Last forward to 2004 and the trilogy has already grossed \$2.5 billion (and counting).

Another victory for the film is that the third of the trilogy is considered the best, by critics and fans alike. This is especially impressive considering the history of trilogies: so many movies bite the dust the third time around it's hard to keep them straight. "The Matrix Revolutions" got lost in its own philosophical numbness, "Harrison's Back in Time" was a disgrace (it wasn't even the same franchise), "Home Alone 3" was so bad I suggest they change the title so the first two movies don't go down with it, and everyone knows that the "Lord Before Time" series went down the toilet after the sequel. Even the ultimate trilogy, the sacred "Star Wars," faltered a bit with the final chapter, "Return of the Jedi." So what is about "Rings" that kept the magic alive?

Perhaps the brilliance of

Jackson's work is due to the fact that all three films were shot at the same time. The idea of signing stars to the sequel and so on has been done before (for example, Tobey Maguire and "Spiderman"), but actually filming three movies in a row was unheard of before "Lord of the Rings." This method of filmmaking is ingenious. By doing it all at the same time, the success of the films is not felt until after all is shot, so inflating costs or expanding paychecks come later (or delay) the process of filming any sequels. Imagine if "Fellowship of the Ring" was released right after filming wrapped. Cast and crew would return knowing what a gem they had created before they would then try to top their previous effort, which in turn would make it worse. (Speaking of the stars of the film, who else thinks Elijah Wood is on his way to overtake the next Mark Hamill?)

Beyond the hubbub about "Lord of the Rings," there is one soft note that will set in soon enough: The trilogy is over. No more hobbits, no more "precious," no more Treebeard. All we can do is enjoy it in the theater while we can. Before, too long, Peter Jackson and his epic masterpiece will ride into the sunset of box office glory and critical acclaim, leaving us with only one thing to do: wait until the director's cut makes it to DVD.



Director Peter Jackson during filming of "LOTR"  
Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema



## Community Calendar

Interested in the story of Abraham Lincoln? Think you know so much about him that you could lecture on it? Then sign up for the 2004 Docent Training Course at the Lincoln Museum to have the opportunity to lead museum tours of the award winning exhibit "Abraham Lincoln and the American Experiment." Cost is \$15.00 for materials.

Upon completion of the course, graduating docents will be asked to volunteer a minimum of 20 hours per year and will receive a complimentary family membership to the Lincoln Museum. For more information on how to make new acquaintances with individuals who have common interests while bringing the legacy of one of our greatest presidents to life, then call The Lincoln Museum at 455-3664.

The deadline has been extended until Jan. 26 for those who want to join the Department of Theatre's five-day stint in New York City. Tickets have been secured to see "The Boy from Oz," the much-talked-about show starring Hugh Jackman.

The trip will take place March 10 - 14 and costs \$1,420 per person, which covers round trip jet airfare, shuttle bus service to and from the hotel, accommodations at the Edison Hotel. In addition to "The Boy from Oz," students will have the opportunity to see "Wicked" and "Never Gonna Dance." Larry L. Life, chair and artistic director and Craig A. Humphrey, associate professor will accompany the students on the trip. For more information, contact Joanna in the Department of Theatre office at 481-6551.

In March of 2004, the Department of Fine Arts will sponsor an exciting exhibit of Midwest ceramic artists for The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA). The exhibition will feature nationally known artists working in the ceramics medium, from this region of the country. Before traveling to Indianapolis for the 38th Annual NCECA Conference, IPFW will premier "A Sense of Identity: Contemporary Ceramic Art" at the IPFW Visual Arts Gallery from Jan. 16 through Feb. 27, 2004.

Organized and curated by Robert F. Schroeder, both sculptural and functional works will be included with 32 artists featured, and the exhibition checklist numbers 55 works of art. Schroeder, who has worked as an artist and curator in the Fort Wayne area for the past 14 years, knew the impact a gathering of such influential artists would make on our student body and the community in general.

If you are a non-profit or arts and entertainment organization and you would like your events published in the Community Calendar, send information at least two weeks in advance to Kurtis Meyers, A&E Editor, at stupaper@ipfw.edu or fax 481-6045





Photo by Kurtis Meyers

## Baby, it's cold outside

After a not-so-white Christmas, Fort Wayne is hit with freezing rain and what felt like sub-zero temperatures. Due to the slick roads, driving conditions were hazardous. However, the freezing rain left a winter wonderland-like blanket of ice on everything from street signs to pine trees, as pictured above.

## IPFW School of Visual and Performing Arts offers classes to youngsters

By Scott M. Lawson  
The Communicator

The IPFW School of Visual and Performing Arts continues its tradition of working beyond the campus population with the Community Arts Academy this spring.

A total of nine various classes are offered to children from the age of 3 to teenagers in their senior year of high school. Prices for the classes range from between \$60 and \$115, although there are several ways to employ discounts.

Registration for any of the courses is through Jane Frazier, who can be reached at 481-6059.

There are three Theatre Classes to choose from, including "Dramagination" for children between the grades of kindergarten and second grade meeting on Saturdays between Feb. 7 and April 3 from 1-2 p.m. "Youth Drama" is slated for students in third through fifth grade and takes place from 2-3 p.m. on those same dates.

Cost for either of those classes is \$79 - but 15 percent lower if a student brings a friend.

The third theatre class is "Theatre Masters" for grades 6 - 12, meeting from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on those Saturdays. Cost for that course is \$99.

An art class being offered is "Arts and the Environment." This multi-disciplinary class combines science and art in a variety of activities, organizers say. It is slated for students in kindergarten through fifth grade and will meet Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Feb. 7 through March 27. It will cost \$85.

In the area of music, there are four areas to choose from, including private lessons in piano, voice, percussion, flute, saxophone, guitar and violin.

April 3 from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. Cost is \$70.

String Orchestra for children in fifth through eighth grade (entrance based on audition) will take place Jan. 24 - April 3 from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. Instruments included are the cello, bass, viola and violin. Cost is \$115.

There are a variety of classes being offered that will take place on Saturdays between Jan. 24 and May 15. Classes include Pre-Dance for 3-year-olds; Ballet I for 4 and 5-year-olds; Ballet/Tap Combo I for ages 4 and 5; Ballet II for 6 and 7-year-olds; and Ballet/Tap Combo III for ages 8 through 11. Costs range from \$60-\$84 dependent on class level.

Girl Scouts receive a 15 percent discount on most classes, and participants are urged to have their Troop Number available when they call.

Deadlines for each payment is one week prior to the beginning of classes. Any accepted after will require an additional \$5 fee.

## British import ABS brings radio friendly dance beats to first American release

By Dan Vance  
The Communicator

Every now and then it's refreshing to find an artist with a hit single who reached that point through hard work, good lyrics and immense talent. Today, at least for Europe, Abs Breem (now simply known as Abs) is that artist.

With "What U Got," his first single off of "Abstract Theory," already in heavy rotation on radio stations in his native England and a quick selling Top 5 hit overseas, it's evident that Abs

is now reaching ears far beyond his Hackey, East London home. And soon perhaps, he may reach the ears of those dance club fans in America.

With his rich Euro dance beats and eclectic, yet unique voice leading the way, "Abstract Theory" proves to be a sometimes mellow, sometimes upbeat, sometimes poppy and often enjoyable album. Although Abs' lyrics are not extremely profound (with the exception of the album's top ballad "Rain"), they do tend to be honest and relevant.

In the nostalgic "Rain," Abs expresses the purity and cleansing of a relationship gone wrong when he sings, "Is it my turn to cry over you? Because no matter what I do, those rainy days won't leave me alone."

This track is by far the most profound and emotional on the album. It also puts every other ballad on the album, as well as most pop-ballads currently on the airwaves worldwide, to shame.

If the styling of Abs' former boy band Five is what you quench, then you can get even that in this album. While not the best of tracks in the world, "7 Ways," the most recent released single from "Abstract Theory" is a leader in the form of pure bred pop.

Also, helping in the world of pop music on this album is "Back to the Limbo" and the leadoff track "Stop Sign." While both are equally tame and upbeat in their own ways, neither really gives Abs the opportunity to utilize his true talent.

Of the two however, "Stop Sign," easily delves more into life with much more comprehensive lyrics. In a lyrical field, "Stop Sign" is the top pop-like track on the disc.

Whereas Abs' lyrics may not utterly captivate you, depending on your personal propensity, his range and ability is impeccable. Unfortunately "Abstract Theory" does his talent little justice, with the exception of a few select



Photo provided by BMG Entertainment

Pictured above is the cover of Abs' "Abstract Theory," which will be available in the U.S. in March of 2004

tracks.

One of those tracks, his first single "What U Got," is the best in terms of the dance beat, self defined "garage music" that Abs is searching for. Filled with a few pop culture references and a typical European rap mixed with some moderate chorus vocals, "What U Got" is the key song to get people up and dancing if it is going to happen.

While some songs on the album mimic disposable boy band pop songs (see "Turn me Up" and "Roll with Me") Abs has proven himself buzzworthy with his masterful range. Though you may need more than buzz to make and sell a great CD, Abs is well on his way to becoming one of 2004's most promising breakout artists in the States when his CD is released here in early March.

TAKE THIS JOB... AND LOVE IT!

# 2004

TRAVIS BROADCASTING/  
IPFW CAREER FAIR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH, 2004  
WALB MEMORIAL UNION  
10AM-4PM

MEET EMPLOYERS FROM ALL OVER  
NORTHEAST INDIANA!

# CHECK IT OUT!

Student Activities Board  
Spring Calendar

<b>January</b>			
14th	Welcome Back Food & Freebees	11-1 p.m.	KT 4,5,6
15th	Big Couch Photos	10-2 p.m.	KT 4,5,6
28th	Dennis Haskins "Mr. Beiding"	12-1 p.m.	Ballroom
<b>February</b>			
3rd	Elvira Kurt - Comedian	12-1 p.m.	Ballroom
12th	Jan Reep - "Dodge Hemi Guy"	12-1 p.m.	Ballroom
25th	Step Afrika	12-1 p.m.	Studia Theater
<b>March</b>			
4th	Alfred & Seymour - Entertainers	12-1 p.m.	Ballroom
<b>April</b>			
1st	Nascar Simultan Vehicle	10-4 p.m.	Walb Plaza
7th	Craig Karges - Mentalist	12-1 p.m.	Ballroom
<b>May</b>			
8th	Children's Carnival w/ John Hopkins	10:00 a.m.	Ballroom

**ANIDIFRANCO**  
solo acoustic performance

Plus Special Guest  
**Noe Venable**

**JANUARY 27, 8PM**  
**SCOTTISH RITE CENTRE**

WIN VIP TICKETS AT: [jnpconcerts.com](http://jnpconcerts.com)

TICKETS AT THE SCOTTISH RITE BOX OFFICE  
OR SCOTTISH RITE OUTLET, CHARGE BY PHONE  
& ONLINE AT [www.scottishrite.com](http://www.scottishrite.com)

PRESENTED BY JNP CONCERTS

## Numbers game at IPFW

from Page One

cent of the student population. The student age range was from 15 to 83, and the average age on campus was 25.9.

Eighty seven percent of the student population was unmarried in the fall semester.

A total of 1,340 of the students admitted in the fall semester were direct from high school admissions. The mean SAT total score (reported for 97 percent of students in survey) was 861, demonstrating a slight drop from the 2002 total score of 867. The mean composite ACT score (data gathered from the 16 percent of students with ACT scores on file) of beginning students was 20.

It was noted 61.5 percent of beginning students graduated in the top 50 percent of their high school class, with the largest proportion of students (42 percent) receiving Core 40 high school diplomas.

In other statistical news not related to the Fall survey, the graduation rate for the baccalaureate program is 39 percent. Athletic graduation rates are slightly higher; student athletes graduate at a rate of 39 percent. The total rate of graduation at IPFW is 21 percent. These numbers were calculated using the 1996 cohort (or beginning) class.

To find these numbers, IPFW uses a NCAA formula that measures how many students graduate within six years of their year of primary admission.

Charts are established each

year by counting the number of students enrolling for the first time, who enroll full time, and who seek a degree," explained Jack C. Dahl, Ed. D, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research and Planning at IPFW.

"The counting period ends at 150 percent of the normal length of time for a full-time student to complete a program," he said.

"It is very common for the bachelor's rate to be lower than the campus rate since some bachelor's college students change their major and complete a certificate or associate degree program," Dahl further explained.

IPFW Chancellor Michael Wartell addressed the graduation rate issue at the Dec. 8 Faculty Senate Meeting.

"In an institution like ours which has many associate-degree programs and part time students, calculating a six-year graduation rate puts us at a significant disadvantage," he said.

"The issue is that we have a lot of students who do not drop out of the university but go from full-time to part-time and back to full-time, etc." Wartell further commented.

"It's a little bit hard in a university like ours to compute graduation rates in a really logical and consistent fashion," the chancellor said.

"Things will change considerably as we increase our number of full time students," he added.

## for what it's worth...

### Fwd: Another useless email

by scott m. lawson

Technology amazes. With the Internet, a British surgeon can instantaneously talk with a Chinese doctor about how to properly close a chest after heart surgery (Elmer's Glue). At the exact same time, they can debate who was prettier - Wilma Flintstone or Betty Ruble.

In my profession (joking, "profession" is probably pushing it) we use the Internet and e-mail to communicate all the time. I've even conducted e-mail interviews, asking pertinent questions like: "What will you do if you're elected dictator of Atlantis?" and "Who do you think is prettier, Wilma or Betty?"

But for all the Internet benefits, there are a few www.problems that pull my mentality backwards.

Forwards. Don't get me wrong, there are quality e-mail "forwards" - or as they're known in "subject" lines: "fwd: - but highly-paid scientists will also say there are quality 'spiders' and 'cholesterol'."

I enjoy receiving e-mails - however, I'm starting to develop a tick whenever I see "fwd: cute jokes" or "fwd: funny jokes" or "fwd: inspirational saying" or "fwd: inspirational speech."

Again, some of these are

worth repeating, but others are as "cute" "funny" or "inspirational" as poison by: I'm wondering about the new psychology at work where a segment of society believe they must forward everything they get on the Internet. These include texts which are as pointless as "For What It's Worth" columns along with highly-enhanced pictures. This column might be crap, but it doesn't come with a caveat that - if you don't pass this on, you're true love will marry your pet llama.

With forwards, you get: "Fwd: Photo - Adorable zoo animals."

"Fwd: Picture - Extra-terrestrials."

"Fwd: Photo - Extra-terrestrials looking at adorable zoo animals."

"Fwd: Picture - Adorable zoo animals eating extra-terrestrials."

And so on. It has gone to the point where people actually feel good about not sending forwards to all their friends saying "I'm not sending you this stupid joke because you've already heard or read it 2,323,434 in your life." And they'll forward that piece of information to everyone they know.

Recently an old friend signed up with some online lame humor website. They sent him lame jokes on the hour. Every joke he received he forwarded to me. When I checked my account a day later, I literally had dozens of "fwd: why did the chicken cross the road?" and "fwd: knock, knock."

If it had been one or two, I would have opened them up and possibly smirked - but with almost 30, I just cyberchickened them all.

Another popular forward is the get-rich scheme.

"Fwd: THIS REALLY WORKS! MAKE MONEY! PASS IT ON!"

This forward was first initiated by a Neanderthal named Ugh about 400,000 years ago. If he was still alive, he'd still be waiting for a profit. It's the standard pyramid scheme and it explains it usually like this:

"Little Pauly's parents found \$145,000 in his bedroom in cash! And it was all legal! This is how it works: Just attach your name and address to the No. 3 position on this e-mail and forward it on! Then, people send you \$2, the No. 2 position \$2 and the No. 1 position \$5! As they pass it on, your name progresses up the chain until you're making \$5 per person! The

more who respond, the more money you make!"

On the list already is:

No. 1: Little Pauly, Chicago Alderman, City Hall, Chicago, Illinois.

No. 2: Ugh, Jurassic Park, Little Island, Big Ocean.

No. 3: PUT YOURSELF

HERE! PASS IT ON!

It's not this risky of a scheme. I'm sure it's almost as ethical and financially secure as the stock market. A whole lot easier to understand, as well.

Not that I'm a part of this scheme. But if you want to send me \$5, feel free to forward it on.

The cyberworld is also filled with naked people. These forward people are also forwarded. Not that I pay much attention to these, but it seems there are a lot more naked people in the cyberworld than in the real one. But I doubt that's why it's so popular.

I mean, we don't use the Internet for dirty jokes and pictures and ways of getting rich by doing nothing and sending pointless "cute" photographs on and keeping UFO rumors flying, right?

The Internet was established to help doctors communicate instantaneously and to keep families in touch even while thousands of miles away.

It's a tool for us to use when we're looking up information on our latest medical questions and news-gathering needs. Students and teachers can use it to find obscure facts about The Founding Fathers or the formations of plants on the ocean floor.


Pardon me, I just received an e-mail.

From: Ugh (ugh@jurassicpark.island.com) To: Scott (scottlawin@aol.com) Subject: Fwd: Opinion. Text: You stupid columnist.

Wilma Flintstone controlling, whiny like Alanis Morissette. Betty Ruble sweet, funny, pretty sexy mama -- but Bam-Bam problem child.

Now, pass this e-mail on to 545,605,342 and Bill Gates will let you move into his mansion. Signed: Ugh."






# Campus Calendar

for Jan. 15 - 28, 2004

<p>SAB events, for information, call 6590.</p> <p>15 "Big Red Couch" Photos, KT ground floor, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p>28 "Mr. Belding," Dennis Haskins (speaker and open discussion with students), WU Ballroom, noon-1 p.m.</p> <p>15 University Religious Forum: "Life Changes: Body, Mind, and Spirit," WU G21, noon-1:15 p.m. For information, call 6992.</p> <p>16 Opening reception for Fine Arts exhibit: <i>A Sense of Identity: Contemporary Ceramic Arts in the Midwest</i>, featuring Midwest's most influential ceramic artists, VA Gallery, 6-8 p.m., followed by curator Robert Schroeder's lecture and slide presentation. The event is free and open to the public; for information, call 6705.</p> <p>Men's volleyball, GC, 7 p.m. (unless otherwise noted).</p> <p>16 Rutgers.</p> <p>17 George Mason, Memorial Coliseum, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>24 Penn State.</p> <p>Men's basketball, Memorial Coliseum, 7 p.m.</p> <p>17 Corpus Christi.</p> <p>19 Tri-State University.</p> <p>19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, campus closed.</p> <p>Women's basketball, GC.</p> <p>19 Chicago State, 5 p.m.</p> <p>22 Wisconsin-Green Bay, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>21 College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), KT 232, 8:30 a.m.; for information, call 6600.</p> <p><b>Weekdays at One!</b> "Building Your Banner Personal Menu and *Special* Banner 6 Preview," KT G46, 1-2 p.m.; for information, call 6129.</p> <p><b>Discover IPFW</b>, WFVA-PBS 39, 7:30 p.m., featuring Chancellor Michael Wartell, University Relations' Susan Alderman, and guests Karl LaPan, Northeast Indiana Innovation Center, and Rob Young, The Alliance, Fort Wayne-Allen County Economic Development. Viewers are invited to call 260-969-2720 or toll free 866-969-2720 with questions. For information, call 260-481-6165.</p> <p>24 Northeast Iodjona Regional Future City Competition, GC, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; for information, call 6905 or e-mail <a href="mailto:dostalc@ipfw.edu">dostalc@ipfw.edu</a>.</p> <p>26 "Taste of France" for Modern Foreign Languages students, WU 222, noon, for information, call 6836 or 6628.</p> <p>Rape Aggression Defoeose (R.A.D.) class for females, campus, 6-9 p.m.; continues Jan. 28, Feb. 2 and 4. Free for IPFW faculty, staff, students, and alumni, and spouses and dependent children of faculty and staff; all others, \$25. To register, call 6619.</p> <p>27 IPFW Book Group, <i>Keesha's House</i> by Helen Frost, KT 101, noon, guests and brown-bag lunches welcome. Author Frost will join the discussion. For information, call 6743.</p>
--	---

This ad courtesy of the Office of the Chancellor

## PICTURE THIS.



• CURRENTLY HIRING PHOTOGRAPHERS. NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NEEDED.

• STOP BY WALB 215 FOR MORE INFORMATION





Photo contributed by Gene Harding

Toughman competitor Johnny Milam stands in his corner awaiting to start his bout with Nick Reynolds on night one. Reynolds won by KO.

## Fight from Page 10

battled Moore for the heavyweight title.

With his brother, a former Toledo Toughman Champion in his corner and a dozen other family members at ringside, Ramirez worked Moore's body hard. And by round two, Moore

had enough and Ramirez was the champion via knockout.

"He had me from the beginning," said Moore. "I used too much energy in my fight with Nate [Muri] and I just didn't have the steam I needed."

Both champions now have the option to move onto further competitions, with the chance to possibly move on eventually to the Toughman National Finals in Las Vegas.

Jim Harbaugh and Marshall Faulk. This is Peyton Manning, Edgerin James and about thirty other guys that are far from boring to watch.

Manning is what most would consider your "American dream." He's Joe Montana with a better presence. Southern, Caucasian, smiling, pretty boy quarterback that would be any team's poster boy. Not one other quarterback in the Midwest is anything like Manning. Rex Grossman, Kurt Warner, John Kiina, Marc Bulger, they are all falling under the label of a "Midwest Quarterback." And in the same breath, you have that speed demon Marvin Harrison. Harrison, in my opinion, is a young Jerry Rice. Give him five more years in this league and you will consider him one of the best ever. He has speed, flair and a straight winning attitude. Would it be far off to call Manning

By Dan Vance  
The Communicator

Hollywood, here we come. Nothing left to accomplish in Indiana. This state just is not our style. That is exactly what the Indianapolis Colts should be saying.

Let's face the facts of life people. I know that, especially since their win on Sunday over the Chiefs, that the Colts are everybody in this state's favorite football team? The Bears, they are your typical Midwest team. Slow, methodical and quite frankly, boring. That's the Midwest, that is Midwest football.

I despise the Colts. Not many things do I like about them, but I am from the Midwest. This is not the Minnesota prides on strong runners. Faulk, Barry Sanders, Eric Decker, a few of the best runners to ever play the game. And they, at their peak with Midwest teams, were the main focus on. On the East Coast, you see more methodical and thinking quarterbacks that are students of the game. In the South, it's defense that is big. The undefeated Dolphins of 1972, the 2003 champion Buccaneers, superb defenses. Yet out west, it's anything goes. Not one area is more focused on. So is it a surprise that the best teams usually are West Coast teams?

And Tony Dungey, he is a typical West Coast coach. People called him that in Tampa Bay because of his approach with the Buccaneers when he joined them. So if the Colts (which I assure you that they are), what is keeping their owner James Irsay from moving them out to Los Angeles? Would they draw more fans? Yes. Would they have a more passionate following, year in and year out, despite simply put, is a young Jerry Rice. If there is one prediction that I can feel comfortable making, it is this: the Colts will be in Los Angeles within five years of today. Guaranteed. Love them, hate them, just don't get used to them. Those Colts are Hollywood bound.

## Are the AFC Championship bound Colts too "Hollywood" for the Midwest?

By Nick West  
The Communicator

Since the stage left exit of the Rams and Raiders after the 1994 season, the city of Los Angeles has crawled, tugged and aggressively pursued an NFL franchise. As much as my colleague would love to see it, it is not going to happen. Sorry L.A., the Indianapolis Colts are not coming your way, ever.

Try your neighbor Chargers, who are ready to leave San Diego after eating their own ticket costs due to lack of an attendance and are now in debt. Try the New Orleans Saints. Their lease of the Superdome is up in two years and rumor has it they may be kicked out because the state can't keep up on payments due to the sagging tourist industry, which it builds its income around. Better yet, how about the Minnesota Vikings, whose owner of Red McCombs has publicly stated he doesn't like the city of Minnesota or the stadium in which its football team plays in. McCombs has tried to sell the Vikings for a year now.

C'mon, it's those three or the Colts. It goes like this: money talks, BS walks. The Colts can opt-out of their lease after the 2006 season, but if you pursue them, be prepared to pony up \$11 million per year until their contract fully expires after 2013. It's binding. If it says it right in the Colts/RCA Dome deal. Yes, that's right L.A. I think I read somewhere that you have a serious problem with spending money on building a new stadium. Wait; here it is from a story written May 20, 2003 by L.A. Times writer Sam Farmer. "Last week, the

**SPORTS CALENDAR**

**Men's Basketball**  
at Memorial Coliseum  
Saturday, 17, Corpus Christi, 7 p.m.  
Monday, 19, Tri-State, 7 p.m.

**Women's Basketball**  
at Gates Center  
\*Monday, 19, Chicago State, 5 p.m.  
Thursday, 22, Wisconsin-Green Bay, 7 p.m.

**Men's Volleyball**  
at Gates Center  
Friday, 16, Rutgers, 7 p.m.  
\*Saturday, 17, G. Mason, 5:30 p.m.  
24, Penn State, 7 p.m.

**Women's tennis**  
at Gates Center  
30, Wright State, TBA

**Men's Tennis**  
at Gates Center  
31, Wright State, 2 p.m.

\*Indicates game will be played at Memorial Coliseum.

# WANT TO SAVE SOME MONEY?



## Rent A TI-83 Graphing Calculator for \$10

A Service  
Provided By  
Your SGA



Stop By Walb 225 To Get Yours.  
Calculators Are provided On A First  
Come-First Serve Basis.

Support the IFFW  
Mustodons.  
Come out and enjoy the action.

# Knockout nights, tough men duke it out

By Dan Vance  
The Communicator

It takes a lot to be considered a true Toughman. On Jan. 9 and 10, some of the Fort Wayne area's toughest men convened at the Memorial Coliseum for the 2004 Regional Original Toughman Contest to take their turn at being called the toughest.

With members of the Kendallville Boxing Club serving as ring attendants, judges and the referee, the show took off with a bang.

Night One started with a bang when visual underdog, 46-year-old Rich Kovatch stunned the crowd and his opponent Daniel Yoder with a win by unanimous decision after three rounds of offense.

"I could tell that nobody took seriously until they saw me in the ring," said Kovatch, a fourth

degree blackbelt, who ended up placing second in the lightweight division. "It's proof that what you see is not always what you get."

Match two of the night however took the title of most memorable in the minds of many spectators. In that match, Fort Wayne native Nick Reynolds delivered a knockout blow to Johnny Milam, who had been pounding on Reynolds much of the match. Milam, who offered a free shot to Reynolds (which ended up being the knockout punch), was less than enthused about his decision.

"I got too cocky and I paid for it," said Milam. "The kid hits hard."

After several matches that were too slow paced for the crowd, 19-year-old Nate Muri showed what

Toughman is all about. Muri showed no mercy in pounding Rich Shery down; despite a chorus of boos delivered at Muri.

Night Two started the same as night one with Kovatch pulling off a shocking win over Fremont's David Pico, who had lost a hard fought battle the night before.

The match of the night and perhaps of the event took place in the fourth spot when Fort Wayne native Julius Moore, who did not fight on night one, shocked the powerful Muri in a fast paced, no breaks match. While Muri body helped sustain Moore's blows, Moore's reach advantage was too much to overcome. Moore's win came via split decision.

The second night of competition, which contained seven

ended with two highly anticipated championships.

In the lightweight championship, "Jiggalo" Pierce Carter, who knocked out Mike Merritt in round one during the previous night, battled the strong willed underdog Kovatch. While both men seemed physically spent, Carter delivered key punches, leaving Kovatch bleeding in round two.

Still bloody, Kovatch went the distance of all three rounds, but Carter, a former Toughman runner up, was named the champion by unanimous decision.

In the final match of the competition, "Iron" Mike Ramirez, who powered his way to his first two victories

Continue Fight  
on Page 9



Photo contributed by Gene Harding

Nate Muri (light blue) and Rich Shery (black), fought in the local Toughman competition held on Jan. 9 and 10. Muri won the match by knockout.

## Harder play benefitting 'Dons

By Scott M. Lawson  
The Communicator

The IPFW women's basketball team won three and lost as many during the University's winter break. But even in the losses, their head coach believes they are never letting themselves down and playing hard continuously. That in itself bodes well for the rest of their season.

"The wins are nice. They come naturally when the kids start to play as hard as they've been playing. Somewhere, they started to get the message in mid-December that they needed to play harder for longer periods of time," IPFW coach Bruce Patterson said.

For the season, the team is 5-9 and has 14 more games remaining.

In the last month, the team lost Dec. 10 to Valparaiso, 86-60; defeated Utah State 83-74, lost to Indiana State 104-61; downed Murray State, 78-72; defeated Morehead State 102-82; beat Air Force, 83-70 and lost to Colorado State, 78-63.

Even in their losses, Patterson said, the team has learned the lesson of hard play.

"They played really hard in that game, and we couldn't help but be satisfied," he said. "Our kids held up really well there," Patterson added.

The team continues to

meld together, he said, with freshmen developing and upperclassmen taking on leadership roles.

Amy Geardis has been on fire for the Mastodons, scoring 30 points against Morehead State and 31 against Air Force. Veresa Bibbs has contributed several double-doubles while Maggie Bruening and Courtney Nickey continue to keep the squad paced in their games, Patterson commented.

Nobody is satisfied with the 5-9 record so far believing they could be much closer to .500.

Coming off of the holiday season, the team travels to Big Ten country Friday, where they'll face Wisconsin.

Patterson knows it won't be an easy task going into the second half of the season.

"We're cautiously optimistic. For this team to be successful, we have to do two things. We have to continue to play hard ... and we've got to stop turning the ball over. We average between 22 and 23 turnovers a game," he commented.

If they could cut that number by seven or eight, those points could bring the team much closer in already close games, added Patterson.

The team returns from Wisconsin and plays Chicago State Jan. 19 at 5 p.m., and Wisconsin-Green Bay on Jan. 22 at Gates Sports Center, tip at 7 p.m.



Photo by Scott M. Lawson

IPFW freshman Ashley Johnson looks for a teammate during the squad's 83-74 defeat of Utah State.

## Losses piling up: No wins, player quandaries

By Nick West  
The Communicator

If one could relate northern Indiana's weather in any way to the IPFW's men's basketball team the past 35 days, then he or she should be applauded if the response was "inconsistent." Temperatures ranging from five to 55 degrees have covered the area for the past month while the Mastodons' play has been up and down like a roller coaster.

The Mastodons mustered back-to-back victories on Dec. 10 and 13 over Bowling Green State and Morehead State, but have lost their last seven. Close losses to Purdue, Southeast Missouri State and Middle Tennessee State had the Mastodons losing by an average of seven points. However, the average of loss to Miami (Fl.), Miami (Oh.), West Virginia and Air Force was nearly 17.

If there is a loss against Purdue was arguably the 'Dons most successful game during the winter break. Trading baskets with the then 17th ranked Bulldozers for the first 35 minutes of the game, the 'Dons were able to keep pace with an excellent West Lafayette squad. David Simon led the Mastodon charge with 19 points, followed up with 13 from Terry Collins and 10 by Keion Henderson.

The significance of the victory could be measured by the final score, 80-69; however the notion that the team was able to hang with a Big Ten conference powerhouse program rich in tradition and headed by a prestigious coach was highly encouraging. And to an even higher extent, being competitive with a nationally ranked squad with only one loss on its record.

Other highs of the winter break were back-to-back victories over Bowling Green State



Photo by Dan Vance

The IPFW men's basketball team is currently 2-13 and has been plagued by inconsistency all season. Above, players look dejected at the end of the 80-69 loss to Purdue.

and Morehead State. Four Mastodons scored in double figures against BSU, while three did against MSU.

The 'Dons did have some bright spots. The team was simply overmatched against The University of West Virginia on Dec. 28. A swarming half-court defense from the Mountaineers was able to hold IPFW's guards in check and forced the 'Dons into an abysmal 37 percent first half shooting percentage.

West Virginia forward Drew Schifino, who scored 21 points, had the nation's longest streak of double figure scoring in 48 straight games. Schifino's streak also set a school record; however it was snapped in a loss to Notre Dame on Jan. 7. Schifino was suspended from the team on Jan. 7 for what the University called "a violation of

unspecified team rules" and was fully removed from his scholarship on Monday, Jan. 12.

Miami (Fl.), a currently 10-5 Big East conference member, blew out IPFW by 23 points on Dec. 30. Conference preseason All-American and nephew of NFL superstar Jerry Rice, Darius Rice, was able to put up 16 points with significant scoring help from his entire cast of teammates. IPFW's Simon put in 21 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, but unlike Rice, was unable to get help from his teammates. The guard tandem of Terry Collins and Beau Bauer combined for only 16 points and had seven turnovers.

The Mastodons scored only 44 points on just 26 shot attempts against the Air Force Falcons on Jan. 9. The Falcons are off to their best start in the program's 45-year

history with a 9-2 record. They also rank number one in NCAA scoring defense, only allowing 47.2 points per game. The 'Dons were unable to score for a 14 minute span in the contest and turned the ball over 18 times.

The most disheartening loss during the winter layoff was against Southeast Missouri State. A 15-foot jumper from Brett Hale with less than a second left ended the 'Dons furious second-half comeback paced by David Simon's forward 21 points, 15 rebounds, 8 blocks and 4 assists. Sophomore forward Brandon Jennings and Terry Collins played excellent in the loss combining for 31 points.

The team also suffered three more discouraging losses over the winter break. Sophomore guard Quinton Carothers will miss the remainder of the season with a sep-

arated shoulder. The "sixth man" was averaging almost five points in 22 minutes per contest, but suffered the injury in the victory over Bowling Green State. He is recovering from surgery to repair the injury. His numbers were not a reflection of the spark he brought to the team while in the game.

Starting forward Ric Wyand was ruled academically ineligible for the remainder of the season in the immediate days following the Christmas holiday. It was the second time the junior has been ruled academically ineligible in three seasons. He averaged 9.7 points per game this season.

On Jan. 12, starting guard Terry Collins was suspended for, according to coach Doug Noll, "conduct detrimental to the team." The senior, who averages 12.3 points per game, has since left the IPFW squad for the season, according to press reports.

The Mastodons are now 2-13 with 13 games remaining and will play at MAC school Western Michigan on Wednesday, Jan. 14. The more challenging stretch of the schedule is over, however; Butler, Valparaiso and IUPUI remain.

With the level of competition slightly lowering and winter temperatures heading into the Mastodons hope to parallel those conditions with consistency on their behalf.

-----Inside  
Sports-----  
\*The return of "In All Directions."  
\*More Toughman coverage.  
\*January's sports calendar.